

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING  
SITE SELECTION FOR STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE EXPANSION  
CLAIBORNE COUNTY MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2005  
7:00 P.M.**

**Mr. America Middleton  
State House of Representatives, District 85**

Yes, I'm State Representative America Chuck Middleton; I represent District 85, and the proposed site is inside the district I represent.

I want to thank the Department of Energy and Mr. Johnson. I would also like to thank the governor for his hard work in allowing us to participate in this process. I want to thank the local leadership.

I also want to stress the point that Mississippi is very fortunate; Southwest Mississippi is very fortunate in the terms that we have Senator Trent Lott, who is one of the senior members of the senate. We have Senator Thad Cochran, who is the appropriation chairman, and we have Congressman Benny Thompson that represents this district. These are members and these are friends that we have at the federal level, and I think that we should call on our friends.

And as far as the state level, I look forward to working with the governor to do anything that's possible to make this come to pass for Southwest Mississippi. And I just wanted to make that statement, and we're going to be doing everything that we can to make this happen. We look forward to working with all who are trying to make this come to pass, and I want to thank you for allowing me to speak this afternoon.

Thank you.